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From: McKean, Deborah
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Subject: Summary of Water Quality Parameters

pH (a measure of acidity) was measured at a number of locations along Cement Creek and the Animas River to Durango and beyond to Farmington, New Mexico. Except for locations within Cement Creek, generally, pH levels were measured before the arrival of the contaminant plumb and found to range between 6.5 and 7.6. When the contaminated water from the mine rupture passed a sampling location, the pH lowered (indicating more acid) to approximately 4.8 (below Silverton). Later, however, in locations down river, the pH began to return to pre-incident levels. Water acidity levels in the Animas above Cement Creek have been consistent over the past two days at approximately 6.4 to 6.8.

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